

Amendments to the Claims

1. **(Currently Amended)** In the general packet radio service telecommunications system, a method of decoding uplink status flags having reduced interleaving depth in a radio link control/medium access control block comprising the steps of:

selecting a first plurality of uplink status flags and providing all of the flag bits in the a first block burst of said a group of bursts; and

selecting a second plurality of uplink status flags and providing a predetermined number of bits of the uplink status flags in the first burst of said group of bursts and the remaining bits in the other bursts of the group.

2. **(Original)** A method according to Claim 1 in which the first plurality of uplink status flags all have a first common feature and the second plurality of uplink status flags all have a second common feature.

3. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to Claim 2 in which the first common feature is that the third bit of an uncoded uplink status flag is a one and the second common feature is that the third bit of an uncoded uplink status flag is a zero.

4. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to Claims 1-3 in which one plurality of uplink status flags is associated with a first group of mobile users and the other plurality of uplink status flags is associated with a second group of mobile users.

5. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to Claim 4 in which the first and second groups of mobile users are respectively users in the Enhanced General Packet Radio Service and in the Real Time-Enhanced Time-Enhanced General Packet Radio Service.

6. **(Currently Amended)** A General Packet Radio Service comprising:
a plurality of base transceiver stations 14; a plurality of radio network controllers 16; and

a core network 18; wherein each base transceiver station 14 is arranged to decode uplink status flags for a first group of voice users by providing all of the flag bits in the a first burst of the a radio link control medium access control block, and for a second group of voice users by providing a predetermined number of bits in the first burst of the radio link control medium access control block and the remaining bits in subsequent bursts.

7. **(Currently Amended)** A mobile terminal for use in a system according to Claim 6 in which ~~each~~ the mobile terminal is associated with a first or a second group of voice users, and is arranged to perform an autocorrelation on a predetermined number of bits in a uplink status flag received from the a first burst of the radio link control medium access control block, whereby said terminal determines whether that uplink status flag is associated with the same group of voice users as said terminal.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A mobile terminal according to Claim 6 7 in which said predetermined number of bits is nine.

9. **(Original)** A mobile terminal according to Claim 8 further arranged[.]to perform a further autocorrelation on the whole number of received uplink status flag bit.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A mobile terminal according to ~~Claim 6 or~~ Claim 7 in a first group and arranged so that, on determination that a received uplink status flag is associated with the first group, the terminal receives the remaining bits of the uplink status flag from said first block.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A mobile terminal according to Claim 10 further arranged[.]to perform a further autocorrelation on the whole number of received uplink status flag bits.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A mobile terminal according to ~~Claim 6 or~~ Claim 7 in the second group and arranged so that, on determination that a received uplink status flag is associated with the second group, the terminal received the remaining bits of the uplink status flag from the subsequent blocks of said group.